

Peter Wallison

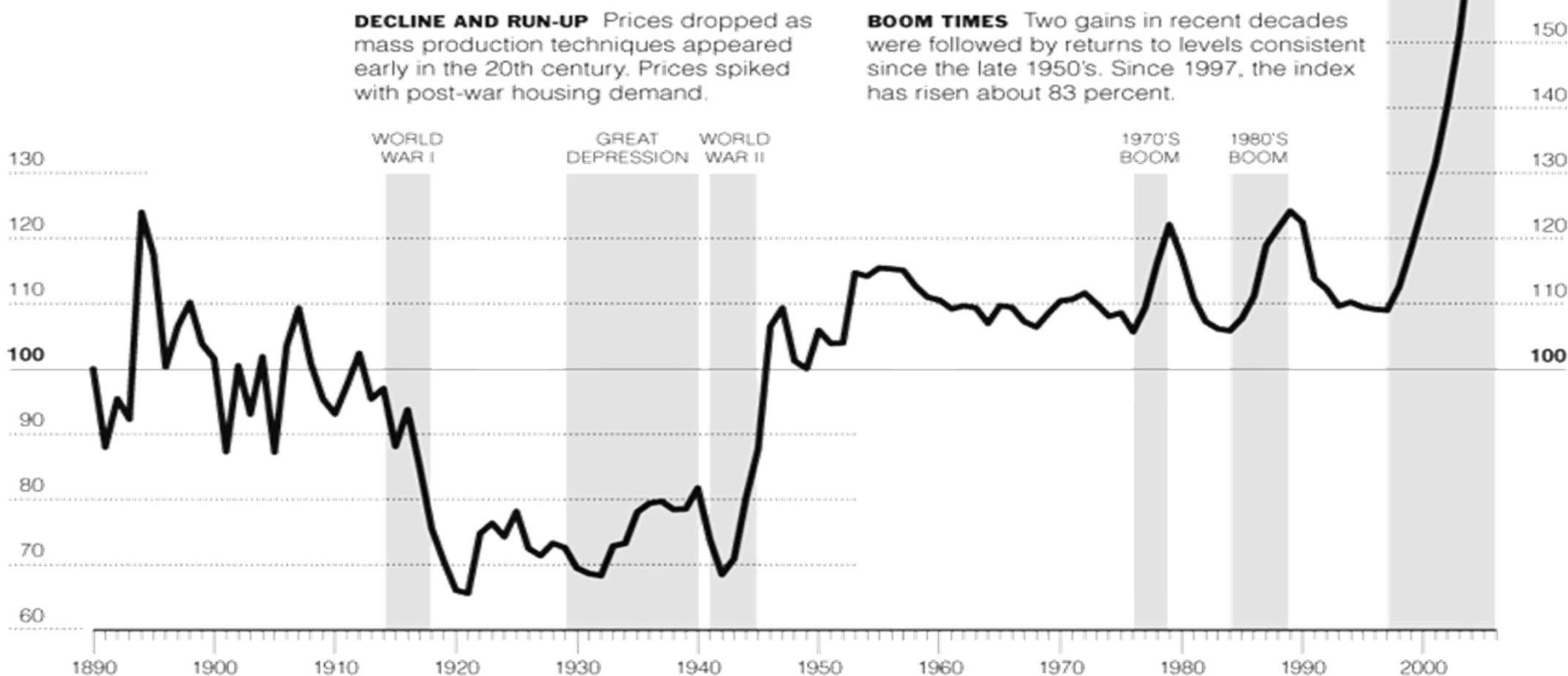
Federal Reserve Board of Governors

September 1, 2011

A History of Home Values

The Yale economist Robert J. Shiller created an index of American housing prices going back to 1890. It is based on sale prices of standard existing houses, not new construction, to track the value of housing as an investment over time. It presents housing values in consistent terms over 116 years, factoring out the effects of inflation.

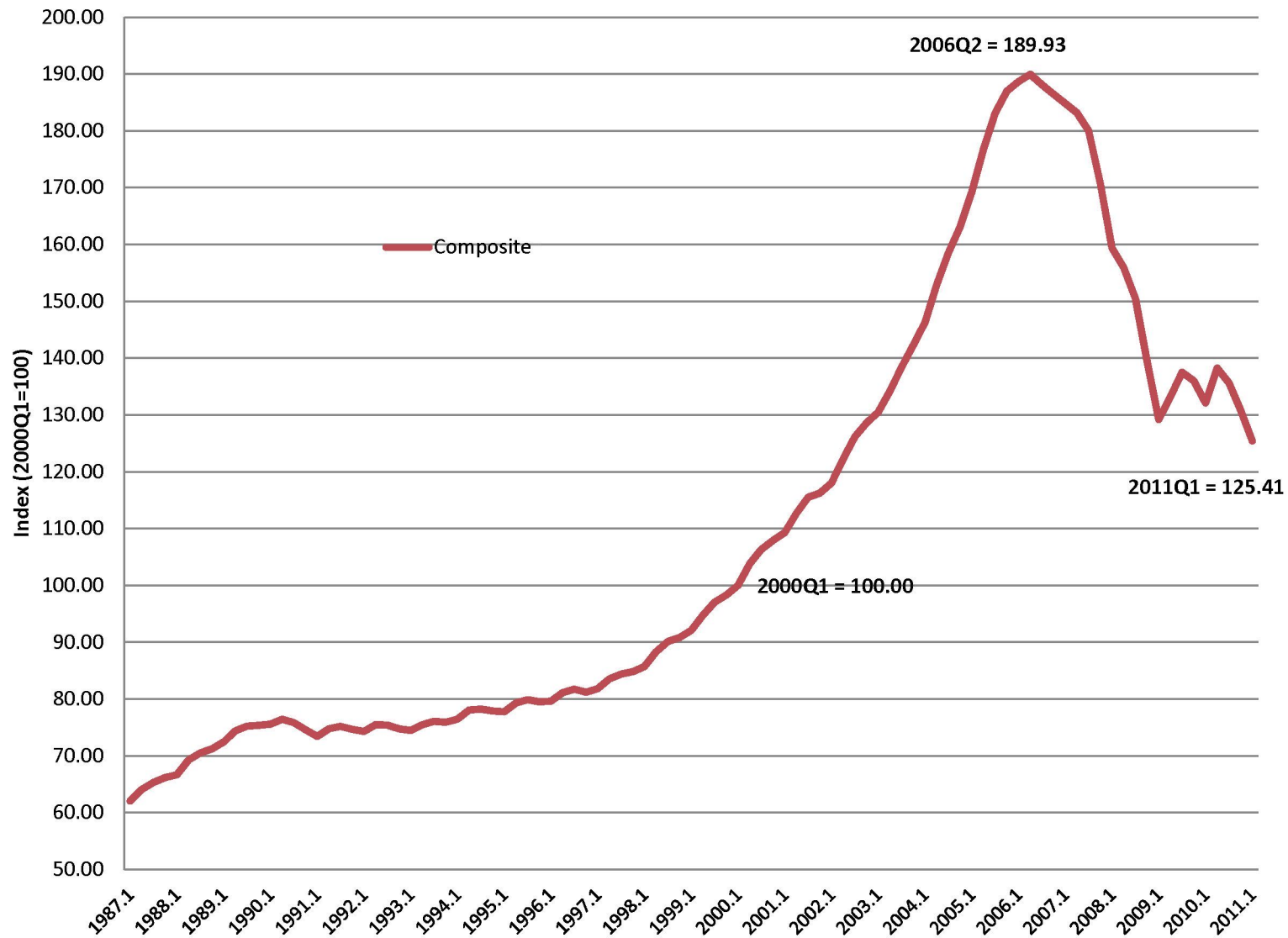
The 1890 benchmark is 100 on the chart. If a standard house sold in 1890 for \$100,000 (inflation-adjusted to today's dollars), an equivalent standard house would have sold for \$66,000 in 1920 (66 on the index scale) and \$199,000 in 2006 (199 on the index scale, or 99 percent higher than 1890).



Source: "Irrational Exuberance," 2nd Edition, 2006, by Robert J. Shiller

Bill Marsh/The New York Times

The U.S. Housing Bubble: Case-Shiller National Home Price Index Values 1987Q1 to 2011Q1



Quarterly Residential ABS, MBS & CDO Volume

